

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES:

19 Mr. Luciano.

20 MR. LUCIANO: Good afternoon. My name is

21 Gordon Luciano and I serve as Vice-Chairman of the

22 Raynham Board of Selectmen. Prior to my current

23 position I served on our town finance committee, which

24 was responsible for budget preparation, monitoring and

1 estimating of revenue figures. Raynham is a growing  
2 community of 10,500 residents in southeastern  
3 Massachusetts, which is made up of 74 percent  
4 residential property and 26 percent commercial  
5 property.

6 I would like to focus my comments on what  
7 direct Lottery aid has meant to my community. From a  
8 budget standpoint, this fiscal year, lottery aid  
9 represents approximately 6 percent of our total town  
10 budget. This amount is one half of our yearly  
11 discretionary spending.

12 By discretionary spending, I refer to non-  
13 committed departmental funding, such as repair and  
14 replacement of existing equipment, including the  
15 purchase of three police cruisers, two fire trucks, on  
16 a three year bond, two dump trucks for our highway  
17 department, on a three year bond, one caterpillar  
18 loader for our landfill, one trailer and tractor for  
19 our cemetery department, self-contained protective  
20 breathing apparatus for our fire fighters, trailer  
21 pickup truck and paint machine for our parks and  
22 recreation department and money for construction of a  
23 gazebo for our cultural counsel.

1           Our discretionary spending also includes  
2 new and expanded program initiatives such as senior  
3 activities, including field trips to plays and shows,  
4 expansion of outreach programs, including meals on  
5 wheels, counseling and medical care. Also, expansion  
6 of our after school child care program and the  
7 construction of a new soccer field.

8           The reliability over the years of Lottery  
9 funding does not mean whether our town can function  
10 properly or not, but what it does mean is it allows us,  
11 through discretionary funding to improve the quality of  
12 life for every resident of our community. It is a good  
13 bet for Raynham.

14           Thank you.

15           CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you.